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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/660,649

09/12/2003

Charles Yang

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12/15/2006

TROXELL LAW OFFICE PLLC
SUITE 1404
5205 LEESBURG PIKE
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22041

EXAMINER

LE, TUAN H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2622

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/660,649

Applicant(s)

YANG ET AL.

Examiner

Tuan H. Le

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 6 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 September 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because they fail to show numeral 239 as described in the specification. Any structural detail that is essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed invention should be shown in the drawing. MPEP § 608.02(d). Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and

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informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

3. **Claims 1 and 6** are objected to because of the following informalities: "... a airtight space..." of claim 1 should read "... an airtight space..." and "...further comprising..." of claim 6 should read "...further comprising...". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. **Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoshino (U.S. Pat. 6,759,642) and further in view of Segawa et al (U.S. Pub. 2002/0057468 A1).**

6. Regarding **claim 1**, Hoshino discloses a ***thin type camera module*** comprising: a fixing board (5); an imaging-sensing semiconductor assembly (2) comprising a COF (chip-on film) wiring film (10) and an image sensing chip (11), (see Hoshino, Figs. 1-2), wherein the COF wiring film has a surface, a window and a plurality of connecting ends disposed on the surface of the COF wiring film around the window, (see Hoshino, Fig. 3), the image sensing chip has a photosensitive surface (15) corresponding to the window, (see Hoshino, column

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3 lines 35-40), and a plurality of bumps (16) are formed on peripherals of the photosensitive surface, the image sensing chip is flip-chip mounted on the COF wiring film to electrically connect the bumps with the connecting ends, (see Hoshino, column 3 lines 45-59). Hoshino does not explicitly disclose a lens holder connected a fixing board.

However, Segawa et al discloses a lens holder (13) for connecting a camera lens (5), wherein the lens holder has a light-pervious channel and is connected with the fixing board (1) to form a airtight space for sealing the image sensing chip (7), and the photosensitive surface of the image sensing chip is corresponding to the light-pervious channel for capturing image, (see Segawa et al, Figs. 1-4).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement the lens holder as described by Segawa et al into the camera module as described by Hoshino in order to achieve a camera module with a lens holder because such implementation reduces the thickness of the camera.

7. As for **claim 2**, as previously mentioned in the discussion of claim 1, Hoshino and Segawa et al disclose all of the limitations of the parent claim. In addition, Hoshino discloses at least an electric device (6A-6D or 7A-7C) electrically connected with the COF wiring film (10), (see Hoshino, Fig. 1).

8. As for **claim 3**, as previously mentioned in the discussion of claim 2, Hoshino and Segawa et al disclose all of the limitations of the parent claim. Hoshino and Segawa et al do not explicitly disclose that the electric device is a

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passive component. However, it is obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use an electric device embedded in chip component 3, (see Segawa et al, Fig. 1), as a passive component, for example resistor is applied to a sub-circuit in order to obtain desired current or voltage.

9. As for **claim 4**, as previously mentioned in the discussion of claim 2, Hoshino and Segawa et al disclose all of the limitations of the parent claim. Furthermore, Hoshino discloses that the COF wiring film (10) formed a module circuit (13) electrically connecting the electric device (6A-6D or 7A-7C), (see Hoshino, Figs. 1 and 3).

10. As for **claim 5**, as previously mentioned in the discussion of claim 4, Hoshino and Segawa et al disclose all of the limitations of the parent claim. Additionally, Hoshino discloses that the module circuit (13) is formed on an extending surface of the COF wiring film (10) without being covered by the lens holder, (see Hoshino, Figs. 1-3).

11. As for **claim 6**, as previously mentioned in the discussion of claim 1, Hoshino and Segawa et al disclose all of the limitations of the parent claim. Additionally, Hoshino discloses that a sealant layer (17) is formed around the window (14) of the COF wiring film (10) for enclosing the bumps (16) of the image sensing chip (11), (see Hoshino, Figs. 2-3).

12. As for **claims 7, 8, and 9**, as previously mentioned in the discussion of claim 6, Hoshino and Segawa et al disclose all of the limitations of the parent claim. Furthermore, Hoshino discloses that the sealant layer (17) is formed of

glass epoxy resin, i.e. anon-conductive film (see Hoshino, Fig. 2 and column 3 lines 60-64).

13. As for **claim 10**, as previously mentioned in the discussion of claim 1, Hoshino and Segawa et al disclose all of the limitations of the parent claim. Moreover, Hoshino discloses that the COF wiring film (10) has at least a conductive via (land portion) electrically connecting the connecting ends, (see Hoshino, Fig. 3 and column 3 lines 25-34).

14. As for **claim 11**, as previously mentioned in the discussion of claim 1, Hoshino and Segawa et al disclose all of the limitations of the parent claim. Furthermore, Segawa et al discloses that the lens holder (13) comprises a filter aligning with the light-pervious channel, (see Segawa et al, Fig. 2 and paragraph [0032]).

15. As for **claim 12**, as previously mentioned in the discussion of claim 1, Hoshino and Segawa et al disclose all of the limitations of the parent claim. Moreover, Segawa et al discloses a camera lens (5) connected with the lens holder (13), (see Segawa et al, Fig. 2).

16. As for **claim 13**, as previously mentioned in the discussion of claim 1, Hoshino and Segawa et al disclose all of the limitations of the parent claim. Additionally, Segawa et al discloses that the fixing board (1) has a recession for locating the image sensing chip (7), (see Segawa et al, Fig. 4).

17. As for **claims 14 and 15**, as previously mentioned in the discussion of claim 1, Hoshino and Segawa et al disclose all of the limitations of the parent claim. In addition, Hoshino et al discloses a conventional module structure by

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hermetically sealing the image pickup element, (see Hoshino, column 6 lines 25-39, wherein an airtight space is applied). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to fill the airtight space with vacuum state or inert gas because a vacuum state or inert gas eliminates the possibility of contaminated air form adversely effecting the sensor.

Conclusion

18. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Kitagawa (U.S. Pat. 6,507,443 B2) discloses a camera module installed in an electrical equipment.

19. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan H. Le whose telephone number is (571) 270-1130. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 7:30-5:00 F 7:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David L. Ometz can be reached on (571) 272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Tuan Le
Patent Examiner



DAVID OMETZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER